

he approaches the end of his run across our great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on April 15, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

(1) Frank Amendment to H.R. 2634, rollcall No. 196—I would have voted “yea.”

HONORING E. YVONNE LEWIS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to E. Yvonne Lewis as she is elevated to Supervisor of Women for the Michigan Southeast Jurisdiction of the Churches of God in Christ. A banquet will be held in her honor on April 28th in Flint Michigan.

E. Yvonne Lewis grew up in Saginaw Michigan. Her parents, the late Drs. Hurley J. and Martha Coleman founded the Coleman Temple Church of God in Christ in Saginaw. As the 5th of 11 children, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Ferris State University, and from the University of Michigan-Flint a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Community Psychology degree and a Masters of Health Education degree. She is the mother of 3: Tiffanie, Tanya and Maurice.

She is now a member of the Greater Holy Temple Church of God in Christ. After receiving her license as an Evangelist of the Church of God in Christ in 1978, E. Yvonne became the Coordinator of the National Church of God in Christ Young Ladies for Scholastic Motivations, of the Auxiliaries in Ministry Convention. She also served as an active member of the Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Southwest Michigan under the leadership of Bishop Earl J. Wright Sr. and Mother Francis Curtis.

Bishop Roger L. Jones selected her in 2007 to become the Supervisor-Elect for Women in the Michigan Southeast Jurisdiction. In this role she will serve as the leader of women and work closely with Bishop Jones guiding the Church through the coming year.

E. Yvonne Lewis is the Executive Director of Faith Access to Community Economic Development. She serves on the boards of the Greater Flint Health Coalition, the Michigan Cancer Consortium, Co-Founder and Past Chair of the National Community Committee for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Prevention Research Centers, founding member and Past Chair of the Caucus of Public Health and the Faith Community of the American Public Health Association, and the Advisory Board for the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating E. Yvonne Lewis as she is elevated to the posi-

tion of Supervisor of Women. May Christ continue to bless her in her work and leadership for many, many years to come.

IN HONOR OF THE AAA STATE CHAMPION KENDRICK LADY CHEROKEES BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the first girls' State championship basketball team from the city of Columbus, Georgia, the Kendrick High School Lady Cherokees.

On Saturday, March 8, 2008, the Lady Cherokees finished a perfect season with a 79–67 win over Carrolton High School. The victory followed three years of close calls for the Lady Cherokees—in 2005, 2006, and again last year in 2007—during which they found themselves in the finals or semifinals of the state basketball tournament, only to lose by slight margins.

However, 2008 proved to be the year of the Lady Cherokees. Their victory in this year's AAA State championship embodied 3 years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into a singular moment of athletic perfection and teamwork.

With a 32–0 record, the Lady Cherokees became only the third girls' basketball team in the last decade to complete a perfect season. Additionally, the team's seniors completed their high school career with an astonishing 121–5 record.

I cannot put into words the amount of pride that everyone in Columbus, and indeed in the Second Congressional District, has in being able to call this outstanding group of young women its own. They have accomplished a special goal, one that could not have been possible without the unrelenting support and encouragement from their coach, Sterling Hicks, as well as their families, schoolmates, and everyone in the community who believed in their ability to bring home a State championship trophy.

Madam Speaker, these special young women have worked hard, persevered, made sacrifices, and developed the character that will help them to succeed in other aspects of life.

I am proud to represent them and once again congratulate them on their history-making achievement.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, today, on Equal Pay Day, Americans are reminded of how far we have to go in order to eliminate pay inequity between men and women in the United States. While our Nation has made many strides in the fight against discrimination, the struggle for equal

pay for equal work continues. On this day, we remind ourselves that much more work needs to be done.

Women have seen recent success shattering a number of glass ceilings within the ranks of corporate and government leadership. Yet the fact is that American women are still only being paid 77 cents for every dollar that their male counterparts earn with the same education, training, and experience. Any wage gap based on sex is unacceptable. The current one is staggering. As pay equity advocate Evelyn Murphy has calculated, the current wage gap means a woman with a high school education will lose \$700,000 over her lifetime. A woman with a college education will lose \$1.2 million over her lifetime. And a woman with a professional degree will lose \$2 million over her lifetime.

But unequal pay not only surfaces in workers' weekly paychecks, it also harms workers' retirement and health care security. Its sheer irrationality hinders the American economy as a whole. In the new global economy, those who stand in the way of equal pay are tying one hand behind America's back. Holding women back not only hurts workers, it's bad for business.

And even where progress is made on the most insidious forms of intentional discrimination, reactionaries are still trying to roll back these protections. Just last year, the Supreme Court did precisely that in the case of Ledbetter v. Goodyear. Lilly Ledbetter worked for nearly two decades at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plant in Alabama. She sued the company soon after learning that she was paid less than her male counterparts. A jury found that her employer had unlawfully discriminated against her on the basis of sex.

But, five members of the United States Supreme Court rejected longstanding law and said that Lilly Ledbetter did not file a complaint quickly enough, nullifying the jury's verdict. In fact, Ms. Ledbetter filed her complaint as soon as she learned of the pay discrepancy through an anonymous note in her mailbox.

However, the Supreme Court ruled that the clock on filing started to run when the employer made its discriminatory pay decisions, decisions which the employer effectively hid by explicitly forbidding anyone to discuss their pay. So despite finding that Ms. Ledbetter was unlawfully paid less than her male counterparts, she could not recover anything. The company that paid her less just because she was a woman owed her nothing. A slim majority of the Supreme Court shunned reason in order to satisfy its own narrow ideological agenda.

I am proud to say that just months after the ruling the House of Representatives repudiated the Supreme Court's decision by passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which would restore workers' right to challenge discriminatory paychecks.

Today should serve as a call to action to end the pay inequity that half of our country's workforce continues to endure. The Senate should pass and the President should sign the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. And the Congress should take up additional legislation to strengthen the Equal Pay Act.

I urge my colleagues to recommit themselves to the fight for equal pay. The wage gap between men and women must disappear. And the Congress has a very clear role to play in that effort.